

the gavel to the words that she said that we're going to define this Congress, define this Nation. And the words that she spoke that rang to me that I applauded, I stood up and said "yes," was this was going to be a Congress of partnership, not partisanship.

It's sad to say that today this is not a Congress of partnership. We may be from different sides of the aisle, we may be Republican, we may be Democrat; but first and foremost, we are American. We are Americans with a desire to have an American energy independent policy, and it's sad to say that this bill does not. This bill, created in the middle of the night.

And when you think about where you sit and what part you're a part of, that the Chamber, that this dome that we're under today was built during the Civil War confronting the challenges that face America. We can meet that challenge, but we can only meet it with partnership, and we need to come together and vote against this bill today.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE EXPECT BIPARTISANSHIP

(Mr. DENT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, the American people believe that Washington, DC, is broken. And this process and this legislation that we are considering today is proof positive of why Washington and this Congress is broken.

The American people expect some bipartisanship on this energy issue. My colleague, JOHN PETERSON of Pennsylvania, just discussed a bipartisan proposal. NEIL ABERCROMBIE of Hawaii, a Democrat, and JOHN PETERSON of Pennsylvania have put together a good bipartisan compromise that we should be considering as part of this discussion today. It will advance American energy and American energy jobs.

The bill we're dealing with today says no nuclear, no clean coal—and I'm from Pennsylvania; we care about that. And there's really no oil and gas. That really limits our options as a nation. We want to create American energy jobs, and we want to use the revenues to transition to alternative and renewable energy as well as conserve and realize efficiencies.

The American people expect better. They expect bipartisanship. And what we are considering here today, unfortunately, does not meet that test.

THIS BILL WILL NOT SOLVE THE ENERGY PROBLEM

(Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today we have before us an energy bill, an energy bill that was presented to us at 9:45 last night, 260 pages long, and very little time to digest

what is probably one of the more important pieces of legislation that we will address in this century. I will tell you this is extraordinarily important.

People in my district ask me all the time, "Rob, we see this issue, it's an important issue for our Nation, why can't we come together and use some commonsense to solve it? Why can't Congress work together?"

Well, folks, this is not the way to work together. This is not an inclusive process. When we are given the opportunity to make sure that the best and brightest ideas come forward for a policy that's so important to the future of this country, we need to make sure the opportunity is there to bring forth the best solutions to this.

We will not solve this energy problem with this bill. This will not happen. It doesn't provide for nuclear energy, it doesn't unlock the resources that we have here. We're the only nation in the world that refuses to use its own resources to solve its own problems.

Folks, we have got to make sure that everybody's ideas make it into this bill. This bill does not provide for that. It's not acceptable to the American people. We should not have this going forward.

NO-ENERGY SOLUTION

(Mr. HERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, Democrats are wasting more time on a no-energy solution for our energy crisis. This bill says "no" to actually increasing American-made energy and relieving energy costs for the American people. No new refineries, no provisions to cut redtape and increase American refining capacity of American-made energy. No lawsuit reform to prevent frivolous lawsuits from radical environmental groups intent on playing political games.

The only thing they're saying "yes" to is an \$85 billion tax increase. It would include unfair penalties for States that simply can't adjust to federally mandated one-size-fits-all renewable electricity standards.

America deserves an all-of-the-above energy solution. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote down this bill.

REPUBLICANS GOT AMERICA INTO THIS MESS

(Mr. WEINER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues on the other side have finally found the forum perfectly equipped for their ideas: one 60-second burst at a time filled with rhetoric and no new ideas. This is the perfect forum for the Republicans in Congress now.

We know that because when they controlled Congress, they passed their own energy bill, signed into law by the

President, we got into this mess. This is the President whose idea of an energy policy is holding hands with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, embracing him with a big smooch.

If my colleagues want to do something interesting, go to opensecrets.org. Look at the donations of ExxonMobil, look at Texaco, look at all of those, and look at the "Rs" next to all of the people who got it.

I gotta tell you something. The status quo is perfect. We govern over here, and on that side, 60 seconds of bluster at a time, 60 seconds of rhetoric at a time, 60 seconds of "drill, baby, drill" at a time.

If you want to govern the country, you had your chance and you blew it. Look at the energy bill you passed.

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WE DON'T NEED A SHAM POLITICAL BILL

(Mr. HENSARLING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, since the Democrats took control of the House, prices at the pump have increased 75 percent. I would say to my friend from New York. Their response, take a 6-week vacation while the American people suffer.

Then they come back and, in the dead of night, present us with a 240-page nonenergy bill, no amendments, no substitutes, no committee hearings. Is this democracy? No. Is there any difference in NANCY PELOSI's America and Hugo Chavez's Venezuela? I think not.

This is a sham. This is a fraud. This is a bill designed to ensure Democrats' reelection, not designed to ensure affordable energy in America.

No new refineries in their bill, no clean coal, no ANWR, no nuclear and, if you read it, no Outer Continental Shelf; 85 percent still off limits.

Democrats look at our oil and gas reserves and say these are toxic waste reserves. Republicans look at our oil and gas reserves and say valuable natural resources to ease the pain at the pump.

Mr. Speaker, we need American energy made in America for Americans. We don't need a sham political bill.

WE NEED ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, America is threatened by four securities: Family security which finds itself hurting to pay for gasoline, food and heating costs; job security which sees our jobs going overseas, not only for manufacturing, but where other countries are drilling for oil, we can only sit back and watch; economic security, when we see our trade deficit improving in every area except for energy, when we see OPEC spending so